

What is Claimed is:

1. A vanishing cream base composition suitable for topical application of an active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. from about 20 to about 70 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 10 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound; and
- e. an emulsifying agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

2. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application of an active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. from about 20 to about 70 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 10 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. an emulsifying agent; and
- f. an active agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

3. The composition of claim 2 wherein said emulsifying agent is polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

4. The composition of claim 3 wherein said polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil is present in an amount from about 2 to about 17 wt.% based on total weight of the cream base composition.

5. The composition of claim 2 having less than about 45 wt.% water.

6. The composition of claim 2 having less than about 40 wt.% water.

7. The composition of claim 2 having less than about 35 wt.% water.

8. The composition of claim 2 wherein said at least one alcohol is present in at least about 35 wt.%.

9. The composition of claim 2 wherein said at least one alcohol is present in at least about 40 wt.%.

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10. The composition of claim 2 wherein said at least one alcohol is present in at least about 45 wt.%.

11. The composition of claim 2 wherein said at least one alcohol comprises ethanol.

12. The composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit is present in an amount from about 0.2 to about 10 wt.%, relative to the total weight of the cream base composition.

13. The composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit is present in an amount from about 3 to about 7 wt.%, relative to the total weight of the cream base composition.

14. The composition of claim 2 wherein said polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit is present in an amount from about 4 to about 6 wt.%, relative to the total weight of the cream base composition.

15. The composition of claim 2 further comprising Germaben II-E.
16. The composition of claim 2 wherein said skin penetration enhancing compound is a 1,3-dioxane, 1,3-dioxolane or acetal substituted with a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>12</sub>-hydrocaryl group.
17. The composition of claim 16 wherein said skin penetration enhancing compound is 2-n-nonyl-1,3-dioxolane.
18. The composition of claim 17 wherein said 2-n-nonyl-1,3-dioxolane is present in an amount from about 5 to about 20 wt.%, relative to the total weight of the cream base composition.
19. The composition of claim 17 wherein said 2-n-nonyl-1,3-dioxolane is present in an amount from about 7 to about 15 wt.%, relative to the total weight of the cream base composition.
20. The composition of claim 2 wherein said thickener is an ammonium acryloyldimethylaurate-beheneth-25 methacrylate crosspolymer.
21. The composition of claim 2 wherein said thickener is a polyacrylamide.
22. The composition of claim 2 wherein said thickener is an acrylamide-acryloyldimethyltaurate copolymer.
23. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is a non-ionic active agent.
24. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an ionic active agent.
25. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an antihypertensive, calcium channel blocker, antiarrhythmic; antiangina; beta-adrenergic, cardiotonic glycoside, adrenergic stimulant, vasodilator, antimigraine or anticoagulant.

26. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is selected from an analgesic, hypnotic, sedative, neuroleptic, antipsychotic agent, antidepressant, CNS stimulant, anti-alzheimer's agent, anti-parkinson agent, antiemetic, antinauseant, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agent, antirheumatoid agent, muscle relaxant, gout agent or a hyperuricaemia agent.

27. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an oestrogen, progestagen, antiandrogen, antioestrogen, 5-alpha reductase inhibitor, corticosteroid, steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, pituitary hormone, hypoglycaemic agent, thyroid hormone, pituitary inhibitor or ovulation inducer.

28. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is a diuretic, antidiuretic, obstetric drug or a prostaglandin.

29. ~~The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an antimicrobial, antiviral or antibiotic.~~

30. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an antitussive, expectorant, decongestant, antiasthmatic or bronchospasm relaxant.

31. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is selected from an antihistamine, local anaesthetic, stratum corneum lipid, neuromuscular blocking agent or smoking cessation agent.

32. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is an insecticide, dermatological agent, allergen, keratolytic, psychicenergiser, anti-acne agent, anti-psoriasis agent, anti-itch agent, anticholinergic agent or physiologically active peptide.

33. The composition of claim 2 wherein said active agent is prostaglandin E1, testosterone, hydroquinone, methylphenidate HCl, or sodium ibuprofen.

34. A vanishing cream base composition suitable for topical application of a non-ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. from about 20 to about 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 30 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. an emulsifying agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

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35. A vanishing cream base composition suitable for topical application of an ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. at least about 55 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 15 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound; and
- e. an emulsifying agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

36. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. from about 20 to about 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 30 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;

- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. a non-ionic active agent; and
- f. an emulsifying agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

37. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application of an ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. at least about 55 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 15 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;

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- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
  - d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
  - e. an emulsifying agent; and
  - f. an ionic active agent;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

38. A method of forming a vanishing cream suitable for administering a non-ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

mixing:

- a. from about 20 to about 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 30 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;

- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. an emulsifying agent; and
- f. a non-ionic active agent.

39. A method of forming a vanishing cream suitable for administering a ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

mixing:

- a. from about 20 to about 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least about 30 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. an emulsifying agent; and
- f. an ionic active agent.

40. A method of administering a non-ionic active agent to a plant or animal in need thereof comprising: applying the vanishing cream formulation of claim 2 to said plant or animal.

41. A method of administering a non-ionic active agent to a plant or animal in need thereof comprising: applying the vanishing cream formulation of claim 2 to said plant or animal.

42. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application to an animal comprising:

- a. from about 25 to 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. from about 25 to about 45 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;

- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
- e. an emulsifying agent; and
- f. from about 0.5 wt.% to about 5 wt.% testosterone;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

43. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application to an animal comprising:

- a. from about 40 to about 50 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. from about 35 to about 50 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;

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- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
  - d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;
  - e. an emulsifying agent; and
  - f. from about 0.5 wt.% to about 5 wt.% prostaglandin E1;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

44. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application to an animal comprising:

- a. from 0 to about 20 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. at least 60 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;



- e. an emulsifying agent; and
- f. from about 1 wt.% to about 5 wt.% hydroquinone;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

45. A vanishing cream composition suitable for topical application of an ionic active agent to an animal or plant comprising:

- a. from about 60 to about 75 wt.% water, based on the total weight of cream base composition;
- b. from about 10 to about 20 wt.%, based on the total weight of cream base, of at least one alcohol;
- c. at least one polymeric thickening agent comprising a nitrogen containing acrylic unit;
- d. a penetration enhancing effective amount of a skin penetration enhancing compound;

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- e. an emulsifying agent; and
  - f. from about 1 wt.% to about 10 wt.% ibuprofen;

wherein said cream base is stable upon storage at ambient conditions, and clarifies at a temperature greater than 30°C.

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